GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1515
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014
AVAILABILITY OF SEEDS AND FERTILIZERS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the availability of seeds and fertilizers required for agricultural works is usually less in proportion to the demand in many States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government is working on any action plan to ensure adequate availability of seeds, fertilizers required for agricultural works in all the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) to (d): As reported by the States, the availability of certified/quality seeds in the country for 2014-15 at 351.76 lakh quintals is sufficient as compared to the demand of 343.55 lakh quintals. Crop-wise and State wise details are at Annexure I and Annexure II. In addition, various ongoing schemes of the Department including National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology (sub-mission on seeds and planting material) etc. are under implementation for improving the availability of quality seeds of various crops.

As far as subsidized chemical fertilizers are concerned (Urea, DAP, MOP & NPK), a statement showing state-wise/UT-wise cumulative requirement, availability and sale of fertilizers during 2014-15 (upto October, 2014) is at Annexure-III. The following steps are being taken by the Government to provide adequate availability of fertilizers required for agricultural works in all the States/UTs.

1. The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture & Co-operation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season.On the basis of month-wise & state-wise projections given by DAC, Department of Fertilizers allocates adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability through the following system:-

(i) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);

(ii) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their state institutional agencies like Markfed etc.

(iii) Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizers as indicated by the State Governments.

(iv) The gap in the demand and domestic production of fertilizer is met through imports.

Regarding self-sufficiency in fertilizers production, it is mentioned that the Government had notified the New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012 on 2nd January, 2012 to facilitate fresh investment in urea sector in future to reduce India's import dependency in urea production and to achieve self-sufficiency in fertilizer production.